

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

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1. (canceled).

2. (canceled).

3. (currently amended) The mechanical fastening system of claim 20 wherein the loop ~~material~~ component is made by stretching the non-woven ~~faeing~~ material in a the machine direction so as to neck down in the cross machine direction and then attaching the ~~faeing~~ necked non-woven material directly to an elastic base material substrate while said substrate is stretched in the machine direction so that the ~~laminate gathers~~ in the machine direction loop component has gathers formed therein upon relaxing of the elastic substrate.

4. (canceled).

5. (canceled).

6. (canceled).

7. (canceled).

8. (canceled).

9. (canceled).

10. (canceled).

11. (canceled)

12. (canceled).

13. (canceled).

14-18. (previously canceled).

19. (new) A mechanical fastening system for an article, comprising:

a loop component mountable on the article and capable of elastic stretching in at least two directions, said loop  
5 component comprising a neck-stretched non-woven material and an elastic substrate, said elastic substrate being elastically stretchable in at least two directions, said non-woven material being attached directly to the elastic substrate; and

B<sub>1</sub> Cont. 10 a hook component mountable on the article and capable of fastening engagement with the loop component to secure the article in a fastened configuration;

whereby when the hook component is juxtaposed and engaged with at least a portion of the loop component, the loop  
15 component is stretchable during limited movement of the loop component relative to the hook component.

20. (new) The mechanical fastening system set forth in claim 19 wherein the loop component has a machine direction and a cross-machine direction, the non-woven material being necked in the cross-machine direction of the loop component.

21. (new) The mechanical fastening system set forth in claim 19 in combination with the article, said article being for personal wear and comprising an inner layer for contact with a wearer's skin, at least a portion of the inner layer  
5 being liquid permeable, an outer layer in opposed relation with the inner layer, and an absorbent layer disposed between the

inner layer and the outer layer, the loop component being formed separate from and attached to the article.

22. (new) The combination set forth in claim 21 wherein the loop component is formed separate from and attached to the outer layer of the article.

23. (new) The combination set forth in claim 21 wherein the article further comprises longitudinally opposite end regions, the loop component being attached to the article generally at one of said end regions and the hook component being attached to the article generally at the opposite one of said end regions.

24. (new) A mechanical fastening system for an article, comprising:

a loop component mountable on the article and capable of elastic stretching in at least two directions, said loop component comprising a prestrained loop material and an elastic substrate, said elastic substrate being elastically stretchable in at least two directions, said prestrained loop material being attached directly to the elastic substrate; and

a hook component mountable on the article and capable of fastening engagement with the loop component to secure the article in a fastened configuration;

whereby when the hook component is juxtaposed and engaged with at least a portion of the loop component, the loop component is stretchable during limited movement of the loop component relative to the hook component.